

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Two bus masters share an external device. One particular bus master has an arrangement for issuing a data pre-read instruction, at the time of issuing a data read request. Upon reception of the data read request accompanying with the data pre-read instruction issued by the
5 particular bus master, an external device controller instructs an external address generator to continuously generate an address for performing normal readout this time, and an address for the next pre-read, and executes readout by the next pre-read address, provided that when the
10 normal readout this time is finished, the bus master has not issued a data read request. The normal data read based on the normal readout address this time is held in a data holder, and the pre-read data read based on the next pre-read address is stored in a pre-read data storage.